

Abstract of the Disclosure

A computer-based communication network including a communication medium, and plural, self-timing-controlled, participating communication nodes operatively connected to that medium and operable to gain transmission access to the medium based upon prior transmission-scheduling knowledge, along with future-transmission, deferential, time-slot scheduling. Time-slot scheduling, which is broadcast by each node every time that it communicates over the network medium, is self-performed substantially autonomously by the network nodes, and is based upon an access-control protocol which effectively operates continually in relation to a span of time that brackets the current moment, where that span encompasses a time extent which includes currently knowable, prior, time-slot-scheduling history, along with future time-slot-scheduling intension.